

Additional Publications
Available:

- ✓ A Guide to Record-Keeping for all Candidates and Committees
- ✓ After Election Requirements & Debt Service Committees
- ✓ Campaign Committees
- ✓ Campaign Materials Identification Requirements
- ✓ Fund-Raising Activity
- ✓ Guide to Continuing Committees (PACS)
- ✓ Statement of Limited Activity Requirements
- ✓ Terminating a Committee
- ✓ Treasurer's Guide for Campaign Finance
- ✓ When to Form & Register a Committee
- ✓ Guide to Ethics Law — A Plain English Summary

Visit our website for training tutorials, FAQs and more!!
www.mec.mo.gov

Violation:

Violations of Chapter 130 are within the Missouri Ethics Commission's jurisdiction and, in the event a complaint is filed, may result in an enforcement action.



This brochure is intended only as a guide to aid understanding of the Campaign Finance Disclosure Law.

For the Law's complete requirements, consult the law itself codified at Chapter 130 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri.

Exempt Candidates

State of Missouri

MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION

www.mec.mo.gov



08/2013

**Missouri Ethics Commission
(MEC)**

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Jefferson City MO 65102
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Exempt Candidates (§ 130.016 RSMo)

Record-Keeping

All candidates must keep records of their campaign finance activity regardless of their reporting requirements.

What is an exempt candidate?

(§130.016 RSMo.)

An exempt candidate is a candidate running for

- ⇒ statewide elected office (ie. Governor, Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, State Auditor, State Treasurer, Attorney General)
- ⇒ the general assembly (ie. State Senator or Representative), OR
- ⇒ a municipal office in a city with a population of more than 100,000;

and

- ⇒ Neither the aggregate of contributions received nor the aggregate of expenditures made by or on behalf of such candidate exceeds **\$500**; and no single contributor, other than the candidate, contributes more than **\$325** (\$500/\$325).

Does an exempt candidate have to file anything?

Yes, a candidate that meets the definition of an exempt candidate must file, with MEC & their local election authority, a:

- *Statement of Exemption (or Rejection) form & an Electronic Filing Agreement* at the beginning of their campaign stating they have no intention of exceeding the \$500/\$325 thresholds; **and**
- Each reporting period, an *Exemption Statement of Limited Activity (for Candidate Who Filed Statement of Exemption)*. This statement indicates the candidate is still below the \$500/\$325 thresholds for that reporting period (this is filed electronically).

Further, if the exempt candidate exceeds the \$500/\$325 thresholds, they must form a committee and:

- File a *Statement of (Exemption or) Rejection* stating they are **rejecting** the exempt status along with a *Statement of Committee Organization & Electronic Filing*

Agreement form no later than 30 days before the election; and

- File all required campaign finance reports that would have been required if the candidate had not filed a *Statement of Exemption*; and
- Report **all** contributions received and/or expenditures made (including those received/spent before filing the *Statement of Committee Organization*).

View **Candidate Reporting Requirements Tutorial** on our website for more information.

REPORTING PERIODS: Exempt candidates and campaign finance committees must file disclosure reports as required by law, which may include:

- ⇒ 40 Day Before Election,
- ⇒ 8 Day Before Election,
- ⇒ 30 Day After Election,
- ⇒ Quarterly Reports; and
- ⇒ any additional “as needed” reports (i.e. 48 Hour Report of Contributions over \$5,000, 24 Hour Notice of Late Contribution, Late Expenditure Report (PACS)).

See filing **calendars** on our website for exact dates specific to an election.

TIP: MEC advises candidates that meet the requirements to file as exempt candidates that anticipate accepting contributions or making expenditures over \$500 to proceed with forming and registering a campaign finance committee.